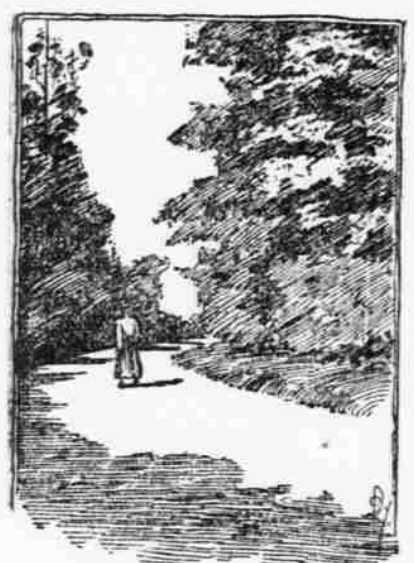


AGRICULTURAL HINTS

RURAL MAIL DELIVERY.

The Post Office Department About to Try a Unique Plan to Test Its Usefulness.

The advocates of a system of rural mail delivery will be much encouraged by an experiment which the post office department proposes to inaugurate soon. The scheme takes the form of a traveling post office and specifications for the necessary kind of a vehicle will be issued in a few days. It is expected that the exterior will somewhat resemble the modern country stage coach, with three windows on a side, and will be labeled "United States Mail," in conspicuous letters. The body will be eight feet long, four feet across, and just high enough for a man six feet



A DELIGHTFUL HIGHWAY. (Road leading from Maysville to Lexington, Ky.)

tall to stand erect inside. It will be a very light running coach, weighing but 600 pounds, and adapted to all kinds of weather—rain, hail, snow or blow, blizzards or red-hot summers. The personnel will consist of but two—the traveling postmaster and his driver. The latter will be mounted upon an ample seat in front, sheltered overhead and protected in wet weather by a water-proof covering. Entrance to the interior of the vehicle will be by a door on either side, which when shut will serve as the center of the three glass windows. These windows and another in front will make the office as light as may be desired by day, while a blazing lamp will do the same by night. The postmaster will be seated in the center of his office upon a revolving chair made stationary with the floor. Both before and behind him will be a working table and a complete set of post office pigeon holes. Under ordinary circumstances he will ride with his back toward the driver, there being more room at his rear table than at the front. Just above the rear table will be a closet with double doors. Inside will be shelves, a cash drawer, and drawers for storing stamps, postal cards, envelopes, cancellers and other necessities, including a trusty gun for protection against the bold highwayman.

Grouped about this closet will be the smaller pigeon holes, among which mail matter for the rural inhabitants having houses or collection and delivery boxes along the route between post offices will be distributed alphabetically. Thus when the new post office on wheels approaches the farm of Josiah Bean, that gentleman's letters can be readily found in pigeon hole "B," and when it comes to the box of Ezekiah Hathaway, who may live several miles up the crossroad, his letters and papers will be taken from compartment "H" and deposited in the slot of the box bearing his name. Beneath this rear working table will be larger pigeon holes, each bearing the name of a regularly established post office on the circuit. Upon arriving at each office the traveling postmaster will take all matter out of the box and present it to his host, the stationary postmaster. This pioneer post office on wheels will be so equipped that it may, if needs be, traverse the country under control of only one man with composite duties of carrier, collector, postmaster and driver. All along the route will be distributed letter boxes of a novel design, each bearing the name of its owner, who may fasten it outside the gate leading up his lane or at the point where the road leading to his farm joins the route of the post office.—Farmers' Review.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Lay the grape vines on the ground. Cut back the grape vines you planted last spring. Don't use too much coarse manure on the grape vines. Destroy the old orchard that you are sure is past usefulness. If evergreens did not do well last summer, mulch them. California figs are coming into consumption in great shape. The quince is quite easily grown and is a choice fruit for preserves. Buy two or three Concord grape plants and have grapes for the family. Air the cellar. Don't let the odor of decaying vegetables permeate the house. Give winter protection to even the hardest fruit, for we sometimes have severe winters. As soon as the ground is well frozen mulch where you intend to mulch. The purpose of mulching is to keep the ground from thawing and freezing.

TREES AND MOISTURE.

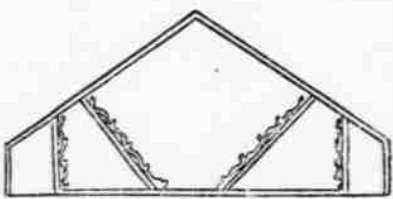
The Old But Ever New Question of Watering at Transplanting Discussed Once More.

A correspondent of Green's Fruit Grower says: "I have planted, perhaps, a million of trees in my lifetime. I have met with but few failures, and cannot remember having watered any of these trees. If the soil is made thoroughly fine before planting; if the soil about the roots is pressed in very firm, as firm as a fence post; if the soil is left loose on the top, and kept continuously loose by cultivation, the trees will live even though the season may be dry." In connection with this paragraph, it may be noted that, on one occasion within the experience of the writer, a large number of trees that had been planted in the spring, and had grown tolerably well, showed signs during the following very dry summer of wilting their leaves for want of water. An examination seemed to show that although the trees had been well planted in the common acceptance of the term, yet the earth in many cases was not packed closely around the roots. It was not convenient to water them. The owner was recommended to pound the earth around the trees with a heavy paving rammer. This was done. It is almost impossible to convey an idea of the force used on this occasion. A force was exerted fully equal to that employed by the regular rammers in paving the streets. The earth being very dry was reduced to fine powder by this process, and moisture was drawn upward by capillary attraction. In a couple of days afterward, there was not the slightest sign of wilting, although no water had been applied, and they continued to grow without any evidence of suffering for want of water until the next rain came. Had the soil not been heavily beaten in this way, their death would have been absolutely certain.

FORCING VEGETABLES.

The Style of House Most Favored for This Purpose by the Market Gardeners of New England.

The market gardeners of Worcester county, Mass., have a handy style of hot house for forcing all sorts of vegetables. During winter lettuce and beans are marketed, and cucumbers and tomatoes started. The plan herewith shows diagonal pieces from center of bed to center of glass. Houses may be of any length, but that of C. L. Harrison, from which our plans were taken, is 200 feet long. The house is 20 feet wide, the roof having a 12-foot pitch. Others have a 16 foot front pitch with 8-foot pitch at the back.



CUCUMBER AND TOMATO HOUSE

For a 16-foot pitch the front side would be 4 feet high and for the 8-foot rear, 8 feet high. The stakes for cucumber wires are about 9 feet long. The stakes are set a few yards apart through the house, and wires strung from stake to stake over which cucumbers climb. Tomatoes are trained up on stakes along the edge of path and bed. Raising early vegetables thus becomes simple, and where markets are good has been found more profitable than any branch of farming.—Farm and Home.

Slicing Roots for Stock.

Wherever roots are largely grown, a root slicer that will cut in good shape a bushel of roots in two minutes' time is almost a necessity. It will leave the roots so that cows, horses and sheep can get the most good from them. Cattle, especially, are likely to become choked by three-cornered pieces of root, which are common when the root is cut by the old-fashioned way of throwing the roots in a measure and chopping them with shovel, hatchet or some other broad-faced cutting instrument. If there are enough roots grown to make a root slicer necessary, there ought also to be bought at the same time a small power engine to do this and many other light jobs of work that on most farms are yet too often done by the exercise of human muscle.

How to Dry Up a Cow.

To dry up a cow, reduce the feed, take away the grain, and when the milk yield drops, milk first once a day, then once in two days, and in two weeks the average cow will be dry and her udder in good condition. With persistent milkers there is seldom difficulty if only fed for a time. If a cow continues to give milk under this treatment or if the udder is hard and feverish, the work of drying up must stop, and the ration be changed to a light milk ration, with loosening feeds, and the cow milked regularly. Forced drying up under these conditions injures the cow. If by oversight the drying up process has been neglected until within three or four weeks of calving, do not attempt it, as there is risk of injury to the health of the cow and her udder.

Spraying with Kerosene.

The San Jose scale is constantly spreading in all directions and in some parts of the south is destroying the peach trees. No satisfactory spraying material except kerosene has been discovered, even whale-oil soap emulsion failing to get all the insects unless very carefully applied. The application of kerosene is not safe for the tree, although a newly-invented spraying pump promises to make it safer. This pump is so constructed that it mixes the oil with water in the nozzle and allows a very light coat of kerosene to be applied. This should be done on bright days in the winter while the buds are dormant, and under favorable conditions works very effectively.—Farmers' Voice.

MUSIC AND MUSICIANS.

Berlin has 118 music schools. The statue of Schumann will be dedicated at Zwickau, June 8, 1900, the nineteenth anniversary of his birth. Piatti, the famous cellist, is living in retirement at his villa at Bergamo, his birthplace. He is now 76 years old. Verdi is busy with a new opera "King Lear." Before it is published, a few of his intimate friends will have the privilege of hearing it.

The vocal craze of the season bids fair to be "In a Persian Garden," a musical setting of the "Rubaiyat" of Omar Khayyam, by Liza Lehmann. A new opera house in St. Petersburg, to be built under the patronage of the czar, is to cost about \$4,000,000. Like the Bayreuth theater, it will have a concealed orchestra.

That the Boston Symphony orchestra has a strong hold on the people of that city is shown by the fact that \$325 was bid for a certain seat. This with \$12 for a season ticket, makes \$337. Cesar Thompson, the famous violinist, is a great advocate of the value of calisthenics and special exercise for developing the muscles used in playing, and insists upon such practice by all his new pupils.

Edward Lloyd, the well-known English oratorio and concert tenor, who has sung in this country, announces a series of farewell concerts prior to his retirement from public work. He is 53 years old.

Mr. Edward Baxter Perry, the blind pianist, is making an extensive tour of the United States. He has just returned from abroad, where his series of recitals in Paris, Berlin, Munich and other capitals earned him a batch of most favorable press notices.—Ladies' Illustrated Journal.

ACTRESSES' FAVORITE DISHES.

Rose Coghlan confesses that she likes oysters and quail and champagne. Olga Nethersole likes a chop or breaded cutlet after the play, as well as a glass of ale.

Modjeska has a very small appetite and a biscuit and a small glass of wine is what she prefers.

May Irwin may be found after the play usually devouring a hot club sandwich and a glass of fresh milk.

Virginia Harlow likes a bowl of bouillon after the play, and sometimes a broiled sweetbread with a glass of beer.

Johnstone Bennett's appetite matches her mannish attire, for a grilled bone or a deviled kidney with bitter beer is her favorite midnight supper.

Mme. Janauschek, one of the old-school actresses, always has a good hearty supper. She has been seen eating pigs' feet and cabbage with beer.

Maudie Adams isn't always hungry after the performance, but there is always prepared for her a dainty supper, of which cold chicken always, and raw oysters usually, form a part.

Marie Dressler, being a healthy young woman with a normal appetite, undecorated by frills of any kind, confesses that she eats whatever she wants, whenever she wants it.

Nella Bergen, unlike most prima donnas, shuns the after-theater restaurant and enjoys nothing more riotous than a club sandwich and a cup of chocolate in her own rooms after the performance.

NOTED BY THE TRAVELER.

Sherry cobbler is not a blooming success as shoemakers.

Some men are born great and some have to be elected.

The girl who poses for artists always leads a model life.

Some men are like dice—easily rattled, but hard to shake.

Men and watches are judged by their works; both have wheels.

All is fair in love except flirtation—that is only half fair.

Sherlock Holmes, Jr.

Burbank—You say that you never saw that man before, and yet you think he has been married about 15 months. I'd like mighty well to know what there is about him to make you arrive at such a conclusion.

Sherlock Holmes, Jr.—Watch him closely, and you will notice that he starts at every sound as if he were afraid it would wake the baby.—Cleveland Leader.

Music Is a Croatian Art.

Music is an exclusively Croatian art, according to Herr Huddow, a Croat, and all melodies by other than Croatian composers are merely variations on Croat national airs. He has discovered that Haydn, Goldmark and Zingarelli were Croats, as well as Hummel, whose real name is Bumbarevic; Suppe, who should be Suppanic; and Tartini, properly Totis.—Chicago Chronicle.

Money Made on Lost Tickets.

Street car tickets in Washington are sold at the rate of six for a quarter. This has been the custom for years. An officer of the company states that tickets to the value of \$48,000 have never been used. The inference is that they have been lost and destroyed.—Chicago Chronicle.

Hardest Japanese Wood.

The hardest Japanese wood is the kiyaki, resembling oak in fiber, which takes a high polish and is used for fine work and frames of ships, but is becoming very scarce, the price having doubled within the last few years.—N. Y. Sun.

She Objected to the Role.

"I have given up going to war as a nurse," remarked one Denver maid to another, "and I wouldn't care very much if this country got whipped."

"Why, Angelica, what can be the matter?"

"Didn't you see in the paper that the nurses must not be under 25 years of age?"

"Yes, but what of it?"

"Do you suppose I am going to tell them how old I am? Not much!"—Denver Times.

An Obedient Son.

Father—Tommy—Why did you beat neighbor Smith's little boy so shamefully?

Tommy—You told me to.

"I told you to! Why, my son, what do you mean?"

"Didn't you tell me the other day it was more blessed to give than to receive?"

"Yes, but—"

"Well, I had to give him a lickin' or receive one."—Chicago Evening News.

Berlin's "Royal Court Pharmacy." Berlin's "Royal Court Pharmacy" is now 300 years old. It was established by Elector Joachim Frederick of Brandenburg, and had its quarters in the royal palace until two years ago, when it was transferred to the Monbijou palace. The pharmacy supplies medicine to the whole Prussian court and to many of the Berlin hospitals.—N. Y. Sun.

In War Times.

Drummer—Is your business affected by the war talk?

Shaving Soap Manufacturer—No. We are doing a larger business than ever.

"Well, come to think of it, there's a reason for that."

"What is it?"

"Why, most men wear longer faces these days."—Brooklyn Life.

Heat Holidays.

In the public schools of Switzerland heat holidays have been established by law. Recognizing the well-known fact that the brain cannot work properly when the heat is excessive, the children are dismissed from their tasks whenever the thermometer goes above a certain point.—Chicago Times-Herald.

Spent by Fools.

"The fools of the world," as a writer suggestively terms them, spent last year at the Monte Carlo gaming tables no less than \$7,700,000. The figures are official, and show that to keep this particular road to ruin in good repair is expensive business.—Youth's Companion.

An English Bounty Hunter.

A man was recently convicted in England of having enlisted as a recruit in 15 places, deceiving each time with advance money. England loses about \$500,000 a year from such operations.—Chicago Tribune.

Too True.

Grandmamma—What are you doing in the poultry, Tommy?

Tommy—Oh, I'm just putting a few things away, gran'ma.

\$100 Reward \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Preparing the Case.

First Lawyer—Each witness gives a different account of the accident.

Second Lawyer—Yes; if we put them all on the stand, the jury may think our client met with three or four accidents.—Puck.

THE MARKETS.

New York, Dec. 21, 1898.	
CATTLE—Native Steers.....	\$4.50 @ 5.50
COTTON—Middling.....	50 1/2 @ 51
WHEAT—Winter Wheat.....	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4
WHEAT—No. 2 Red.....	40 @ 41
OATS—No. 2.....	23 @ 24
PORK—New Mess.....	9 25 @ 9 50
ST. LOUIS.	
COTTON—Middling.....	50 1/2 @ 51
BEEVES—Steers.....	3 1/2 @ 3 3/4
Cows and Heifers.....	2 00 @ 2 10
CALVES—per 100.....	4 00 @ 4 25
HOGS—Clear Choice.....	3 10 @ 3 15
SHEEP—Fair to Choice.....	2 15 @ 2 30
FLOUR—Patents (new).....	3 35 @ 3 50
Clear Choice.....	3 20 @ 3 25
WHEAT—No. 2 Red Winter.....	70 @ 71
CORN—No. 2 Mixed.....	34 @ 34 1/2
OATS—No. 2.....	27 1/2 @ 28
RAYON—Choice Dairy.....	16 @ 18
EGGS—Fresh.....	16 @ 20
PORK—Standard Mess (new).....	9 40 @ 9 50
BACON—Clear Rib.....	16 @ 18
LARD—Prime Steam.....	6 @ 6 1/2
CHICAGO.	
CATTLE—Native Steers.....	3 1/2 @ 3 50
HOGS—All Grades.....	3 00 @ 3 40
WHEAT—No. 2 Red (new).....	39 1/2 @ 40 1/2
OATS—No. 2 White.....	27 1/2 @ 28
CORN—No. 2.....	32 @ 32 1/2
NEW ORLEANS.	
FLOUR—High Grade.....	3 20 @ 3 35
CORN—No. 2.....	30 @ 31
OATS—Western.....	22 1/2 @ 23
HAY—Choice.....	13 00 @ 13 50
PORK—Standard Mess.....	8 15 @ 8 50
BACON—Clear Rib.....	16 @ 18
COTTON—Middling.....	50 @ 51
LOUISVILLE.	
WHEAT—No. 2 Red.....	69 @ 70 1/2
CORN—No. 2 Mixed.....	24 1/2 @ 25 1/2
OATS—No. 2 Mixed.....	22 1/2 @ 23 1/2
PORK—New Mess.....	8 15 @ 8 50
BACON—Clear Rib.....	16 @ 18
COTTON—Middling.....	50 @ 51

The World's Supply of Wheat.

An English expert prophesies a universal dearth in the wheat supply. He claims that the wheat producing soil is unequal to the strain that will be put upon it. Even now when the food supply of the world is ample, thousands die because their disordered stomachs fail to properly assimilate the food they take. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters strengthens and tones up the stomach and digestive organs, and enable them to perform their proper functions. This great remedy cures dyspepsia, torpid liver, nervousness and fever and ague.

The Girl in Love.

She's timid and believes in peace, She shrinks from war's alarms; Yet, womanlike, she'll never cease To love the call to arms.—Judge.

Go South This Winter.

For the present winter season the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company has improved its already perfect through service of Pullman Vestibule Sleeping Cars and elegant day coaches from Cincinnati, Louisville, St. Louis and Chicago, to Mobile, New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, Thomasville, Ga., Pensacola, Jacksonville, Tampa, Palm Beach and other points in Florida. Perfect connection will be made with steamer lines for Cuba, Porto Rico, Nassau and West Indian ports. Tourist and Home-Seekers excursion tickets on sale at low rates. Write C. P. Atmore, General Passenger Agent, Louisville, Ky., for particulars.

Tested and Found Wanting. Mrs. Matchmaker—Marie, do you think Mr. Slowman is in earnest?

Miss Matchmaker—I'm afraid not, mamma. I mentioned diamonds last evening, and he only yawned.—Jeweler's Weekly.

For California Tourists. The Burlington Route has Weekly Tourist Sleeper Excursions, personally conducted (by a Burlington Route Agent) every Wednesday from St. Louis, and Thursday from Kansas City and St. Joseph to Los Angeles and San Francisco. The route is via Denver, scenic Colorado, Salt Lake City, with 98 per cent. sunshine throughout the year. Ask Ticket Agent or write for descriptive folder to L. W. Wakeley, General Passenger Agent, St. Louis, Mo.

Agricultural.

"Our town," exclaimed the man who had accumulated most of the desirable lots, "has flourished like a great tree."

"Yes," said the town cynic, "we have done so rooting and you the grafting."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Try Grain-O! Try Grain-O!

Ask your grocer to-day to show you a package of GRAIN-O, the new food drink that takes the place of coffee. The children may drink it without injury as well as the adult. All who try it like it. GRAIN-O has that rich seal brown of Mocha or Java, but it is made from pure grains, and the most delicate stomachs receive it without distress. 14 the price of coffee, 15 cts. and 25 cts. per package. Sold by all grocers.

The Climate Forbids It.

Biggs—Is it true that Smith, the iceman, is dead?

Dodge—Yes, poor fellow. He cuts no ice now.—Life.

Use St. Jacobs Oil promptly and freely And say good-bye to neuralgia.

Trouble gets into many a home by means of a night latch key.—L. A. W. Bulletin.

Coughing Leads to Consumption.

Kemp's Balsam will stop the Cough at once. Go to your druggist to-day and get a sample bottle free. Large bottles 25 and 50 cents. Go at once; delays are dangerous.

Metropolitan Orthodoxy.

Teacher—Miss Street, can you tell me what is most peculiar in the hatching of the cuckoo?

Miss Street (doubtfully)—It generally builds its nest in a clock.—Jeweler's Weekly.

A sprain may cripple but St. Jacobs Oil Will cure it before it can. It cures.

If you take a cat to bed do not complain of its claws.—Spanish Proverb.

Lane's Family Medicine.

Moves the bowels each day. In order to be healthy this is necessary. Acts gently on the liver and kidneys. Cures sick headache. Price 25 and 50c.

When a man concludes he is too smart to work he comes to the conclusion that he made more thieves than any other thing on earth.—Atchison Globe.

Stand straight and strong—St. Jacobs Oil cures lame back cures promptly.

When eyes snap, it must be the lashes that crack.—Golden Days.

When eyes snap, it must be the lashes that crack.—Golden Days.

To Cure a Cold in One Day.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund money if it fails to cure. 25c.

The only place where a chronic kicker may be useful is in a football game.—L. A. W. Bulletin.

The pain that tortures sciatica. The Cure that cures it—St. Jacobs Oil.

A good man's son inherits poverty.—Spanish Proverb.

Piso's Cure for Consumption has no equal as a Cough medicine.—F. M. Abbott, 383 Seneca St., Buffalo, N. Y., May 9, 1894.

We all love to see a smart man make a slip—it reconciles us to being stupid.—Town Topics.

Sore and stiff from cold; don't wait and suffer; use St. Jacobs Oil and get cured.

He who sows thorns must not go barefoot.—Spanish Proverb.

STAR PLUG

L. & M. NATURAL LEAF PLUG
CLIPPER PLUG
CORNER STONE PLUG
SEAL PLUG
SCALPING KNIFE PLUG
SLEDGE MIXTURE SMOKING
LIGGETT & MYERS TOBACCO COMP'Y, Manufacturer.

"TO SAVE TIME IS TO LENGTHEN LIFE."

DO YOU VALUE LIFE?

THEN USE

SAPOLIO

TO cure, or money refunded by your merchant, so why not try it? Price 50c.

Does Your Head Ache?

Are your nerves weak? Can't you sleep well? Pain in your back? Lack energy? Appetite poor? Digestion bad? Boils or pimples? These are sure signs of poisoning. From what poisons? From poisons that are always found in constipated bowels. If the contents of the bowels are not removed from the body each day, as nature intended, these poisonous substances are sure to be absorbed into the blood, always causing suffering and frequently causing severe disease. There is a common sense cure.

AYER'S PILLS

They daily insure an easy and natural movement of the bowels. You will find that the use of

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

with the pills will hasten recovery. It cleanses the blood from all impurities and is a great tonic to the nerves.

Write the Doctor.

Our Medical Department has one of the most eminent physicians in the United States. Tell the doctor just how you are suffering. You will receive the best medical advice without cost. Address: DR. J. C. AYER, Lowell, Mass.

HEADACHE

"Both my wife and myself have been using CASCARETS and they are the best medicine we have ever had in the house. Last week my wife was afflicted with headache for two days, she tried some of your CASCARETS, and they relieved the pain in her head almost immediately. We both recommend CASCARETS." CHAS. STRONG, Pittsburg, Pa.

CANDY CATHARTIC

REGULATE THE LIVER

Pleasant, Palatable, Potent, Taste Good, Do Good. Never Sickens, Weakens, or Gries. No. 300.

CURE CONSTIPATION.

NO-TO-BAC Sold and guaranteed by all druggists to CURE TOBACCO HABIT.

SEE THE LATEST MODELS

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Numbers 6, 7 and 8.

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